# Reading Resources for Those in Need -- Your New York State Library Offers Solutions

## Talking Book and Braille Library (TBBL)

A free library of Braille and audio materials circulated to eligible borrowers

### Do you need assistance…

…getting to the library?

…holding up the book?

…seeing the words?

…turning the pages?

…finding Braille material?

…knowing available services?

We offer reading resources to New Yorkers with visual, physical and learning disabilities.

### Library Services & Resources

A free library of Braille and audio materials circulated directly to the user's door:

* Audio books and magazines
* Audio players and accessories
* Downloadable books and magazines
* Free app for iOS and Android mobile devices
* Braille books and magazines
* New and current titles added constantly
* Fiction and non-fiction materials
* Some foreign language materials
* Titles for pre-K through young adult
* Free delivery and return of all materials

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Who Qualifies?

Eligible residents of New York State, with the exception of residents of the five New York City boroughs and Long Island, who:

* Have a visual impairment
* Are blind
* Have a physical condition that makes holding books and turning pages difficult
* Have a medically diagnosed reading or learning disability

### How Does Someone Apply for Services?

* The approval process takes approximately seven days.
* New patrons receive a welcome packet in about two weeks.
* The welcome packet includes information and instructions.

### What is Available?

* Audio books & magazines
* Audio player & accessories
* Downloadable books & magazines
* Braille books & magazines

### How is Material Received?

* Free delivery to user’s home
* Download for listening on service supplied players or a compatible commercial player

### What is the Cost?

* All services are free to user
* Free use of books & magazines
* Free use of player
* Free delivery and return of materials

TBBL is part of a network of libraries supported by the National Library Service of the Library of Congress.

The New York State Library is a part of the State Education Department | University of the State of New York.

## Contact Us

New York State Library  
Talking Book and Braille Library  
Cultural Education Center  
222 Madison Avenue   
Albany, NY 12230-0001

Web: <http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/tbbl/>  
Email: [tbbl@nysed.gov](mailto:tbbl@nysed.gov)  
Local phone: (518) 474-5935  
**Toll free:** (800) 342-3688

### Residents in New York City and Long Island should contact:

The New York Public Library  
Andrew Heiskell Braille and Talking Book Library  
40 West 20th Street  
New York, NY 10011-4211  
<https://www.nypl.org/locations/heiskell>

### Free Services for Institutions

Institutions that serve individuals with visual, physical or reading disabilities that impair the individual's ability to read standard print may borrow from TBBL on behalf of their service community. Eligible institutions are schools and colleges, hospitals, nursing homes and rehabilitation centers, adult care and retirement homes, correctional facilities and libraries.

### Referral Services

Referrals to services for the visually, physically and learning disabled are available. Call, email or visit our website for assistance.